areas reduces post harvest lesses, establish productive linkages between industry and farmers, increase exports of processed foods and generally support productive efforts of agriculture and allied activities.

Scrapping of Trawler charter policy

1742 SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the Financial Express dated April 0, 1993 captioned "Trawler charter policy may be scrapped";

(b) the details of compensation proposed to be extended to sick fishing units who applied for charter permits under the 1989 scheme;

(c) whether Government are aware that many sick fishing units of Andhra Pradesh have tried to avail of this scheme; and

(d) what steps are likely to be taken to help sick units being managed by small entrepreneurs in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Trawler charter policy may be scrapped" which appeared in the Financial Exress, New Delhi edition dated April 9, 1993.

(b) and (c) There is no specific dispensation for grant of charter permits to sick fishing units.

(d) Rehabilitation assistance was extended to the sick deep sea fishing companies assisted by the erstwhile SDFC under a rehabilitation scheme [illegible] by the Government of India in April, 1991. This rehabilitation scheme, which was drawn up by the Government of India in consultation with the fishing industry, envisaged concessions which included waiver of penal interest, recapitalisation of overdue amounts repayable over the balance economic life of the vessel additional financial assistance for meeting increased cost of acquisition of vessels, financial assistance for repair and re-modification of vessels etc. The above rehabilitation package was further liberalised in June 1992. The above scheme applies to sick deep sea fishing units in the country.

Report by FAO on Deep Sea Fisheries Development

1743. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noted the report on deep sea fisheries development in India complied by an FAO Consultant in April, 1992;

(b) what is Government's reaction to the report;

(c) whether it is a fact that this FAO report places the commercially exploitable marine resources at a much lower level than is generally assumed by Government agencies thus far; and

(d) what steps are likely to be taken to revive the existing deep-sea shrimp fleet to a sustainable level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has accepted the recommendations in the Report.